

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).

2. (currently amended): A method of displaying vital signs on a plurality of bedside monitors, each of which comprises a display area, the method comprising:

storing predetermined priority information which ranks a plurality of alarm conditions each of which is an alarm pertinent to the vital signs;

disposing each of the plurality of bedside monitors at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients, respectively;

simultaneously displaying, in the display area of each of the plurality of bedside monitors, parameter values of ~~a plurality of sets~~ at least one set of vital signs measured for at least one other of the plurality of patients, ~~respectively~~ together with a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients; and

displaying, in the display area of each of the plurality of bedside monitors, ~~prioritized alarm information from among alarm information pertaining to the vital signs~~ prioritized alarm information from among alarm information pertaining to the vital signs corresponding to a highest-ranked one of the alarm conditions for each of the plurality of patients, when ~~at least one~~ a plurality of the vital signs of any one of the plurality of patients ~~is are~~ is in a state in which ~~an the~~ an alarm ~~is to be issued~~ conditions.

3. - 8. (canceled).

9. (new): A bedside monitor, adapted to be disposed at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients and connected to at least one other bedside monitor by way of a network, comprising:

a memory for storing priority information in which a plurality of alarm conditions each of which is an alarm pertinent to the vital signs is to be issued are ranked; and

a display area, operable to:

display a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients simultaneously with parameter values of at least one set of vital signs measured by the at least one other bedside monitor; and

display alarm information corresponding to a highest-ranked one of the alarm conditions for each of the patients, when a plurality of vital signs of any one of the patients are in the alarm conditions.

10. (new): A monitoring system for monitoring and displaying vital signs, comprising:

a network;

a plurality of bedside monitors, communicatively connected with each other by way of the network, each of which is adapted to be disposed at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients;

a storage unit for storing priority information in which a plurality of alarm conditions each of which is an alarm pertinent to the vital signs is to be issued are ranked;

wherein each of the bedside monitors includes a display area for displaying a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients simultaneously with parameter values of at least one set of vital signs measured by at least one other bedside monitor; and

display alarm information corresponding to a highest-ranked one of the alarm conditions for each of the patients, when a plurality of vital signs of any one of the patients are in the alarm conditions.